

HARINGEY JSNA: FOCUS ON

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS (VAWG)

SEPTEMBER 2020

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) manifests in different forms. These include intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking, and harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) and child, early and forced marriage, among others¹.

VAWG is a serious issue across Haringey.

The borough has one of the highest rates of reported domestic abuse across London. Addressing violence against women and girls is already recognised as a priority area regionally, nationally and internationally. Behind each incident there are victims for whom the costs can be incalculable. The impact of VAWG on families and children can be devastating.

Facts and figures

- In Haringey in 2018/19, the rate of sexual offences was 2.7 per 1,000 of the population, slightly above the England average of 2.5.
- An estimated 3,500 women and girls in Haringey were affected by FGM according to figures reported in the Haringey VAWG Strategy 2016-2026.
- VAWG is estimated to cost the borough £27.6 million a year, which does not include the human and emotional costs of £47.6 million.

Measures for reducing inequalities

- Interventions that are evidence based including a greater focus on prevention and treatment of violent crime (including sexual violence) in parallel to criminal justice measures.
- Developing local policies and strategies which are informed by the national policy context relating to VAWG. This includes local based interventions which support victims and perpetrators and prevent future re-victimisation.

Population groups

- In Haringey, women and girls are disproportionately likely to be repeat victims of VAWG when compared to the London female population.
- In actual fact, 26.6% of domestic abuse victims in the borough experienced more than one incident in the past 12 months compared to 25.1% in London

National & local strategies

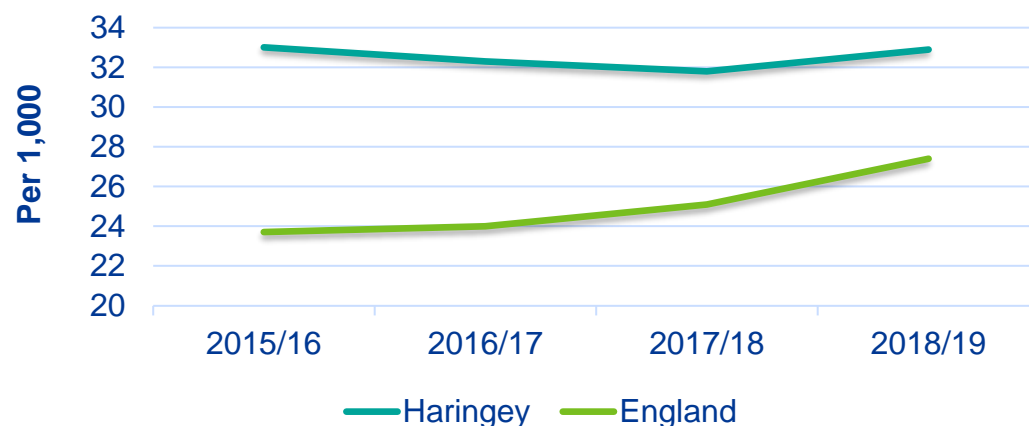
- It is the governments strategic ambition, as set out in Call for evidence to end violence against women and girls 2010 and in successive action plans to do what it can to contribute to contribute to a cohesive and comprehensive response.
- Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy: 2016-20
- Haringey VAWG Strategy, 2016-2026

SETTING THE SCENCE: THE HARINGEY PICTURE

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Domestic abuse, or domestic violence, is defined across Government as any incident of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of their gender or sexuality. Domestic abuse and sexual violence harms the whole of society and impacts across all sections of our local communities. Sexual violence in particular may involve a single abuser or group of abusers. According to the Office of National Statistics, about 7.9% of women suffered domestic abuse in England and Wales during 2018. This equates to 1,300,000 women. The rate of domestic abuse cases in Haringey in 2018/19 was 32.9 per 1,000 which was higher than the England average of 27.4. In 2018/19, 77% of victims of domestic abuse were female in Haringey and 23% were male (ref to MOPAC). Over the same period, 87% of perpetrators were male and 13% were female.

**Domestic abuse related incidents and crimes:
crude rate per 1,000**

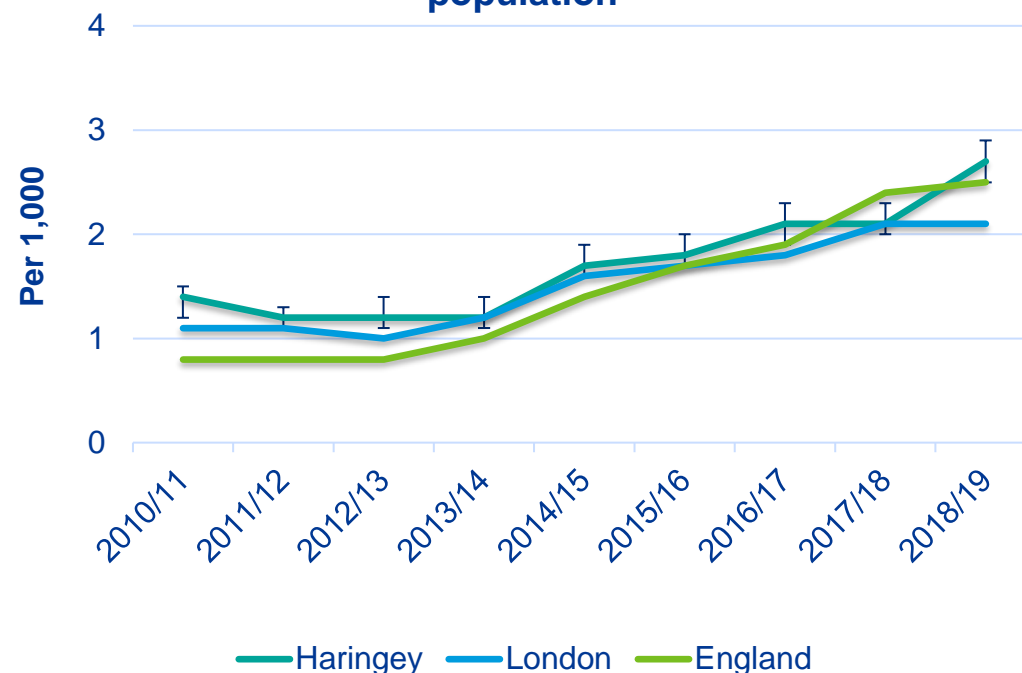


Source of data: ONS (1)

In Haringey in 2018/19, the rate of sexual offences was 2.7 per 1,000 of the population. The rate was above the London and England averages. Between 2017/18 and 2018/19, there was an increase from 581 to 728 in Haringey, which equates to a rise of 25%.

In Haringey in 2018/19, 89% of victims of sexual violence were female and 11% were male (MOPAC). During the same period, 97% of perpetrators were male and 3% were female.

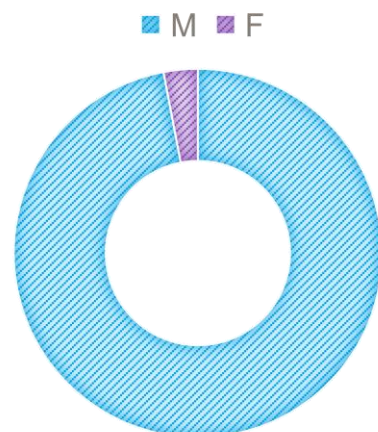
**Violent crime - sexual offences per 1,000
population**



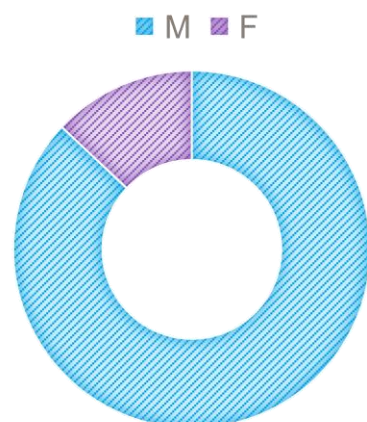
SETTING THE SCENE: THE HARINGEY PICTURE

Perpetrator Profile: Sexual Offences and Domestic Abuse in Haringey

GENDER OF PERPETRATORS:
SEXUAL OFFENCES, 2018/19



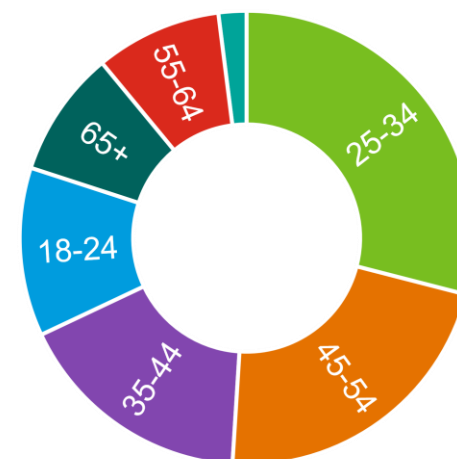
GENDER OF PERPETRATORS: DOMESTIC
ABUSE, 2018/19



Perpetrators of Sexual Offences by Ethnicity in Haringey (FY 2018/19)



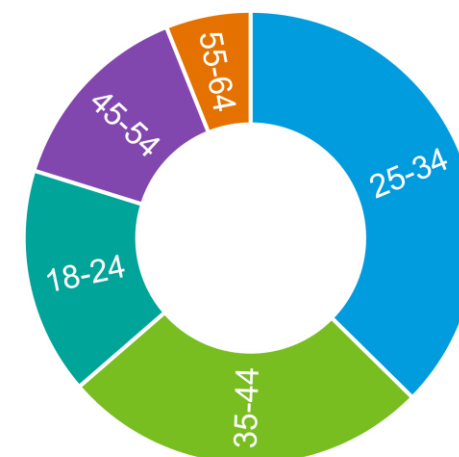
Age of Perpetrators Committing
Sexual Offences in 2018/19



Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse by Ethnicity in Haringey (FY 2018/19)



Age of Perpetrators Committing
Domestic Abuse in 2018/19

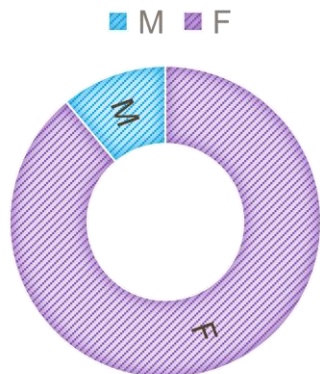


Source of data: MOPAC(2)

SETTING THE SCENE: THE HARINGEY PICTURE

Victim Profile: Sexual Offences and Domestic Abuse in Haringey

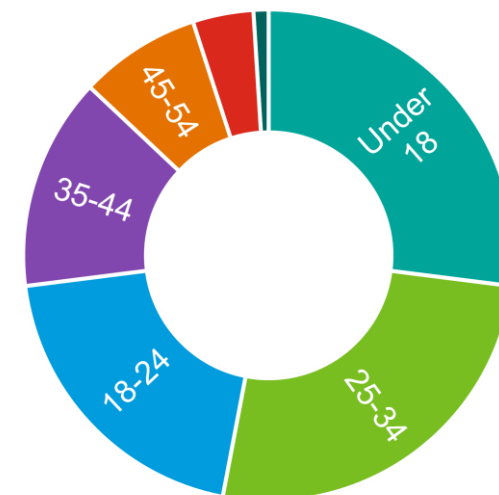
VICTIMS OF SEXUAL OFFENCES BY GENDER



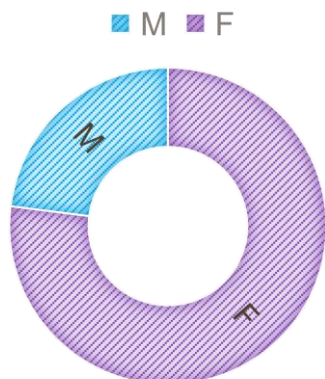
Victims of sexual offences in Haringey by Ethnicity



Age of victims of sexual offences, 2018/19



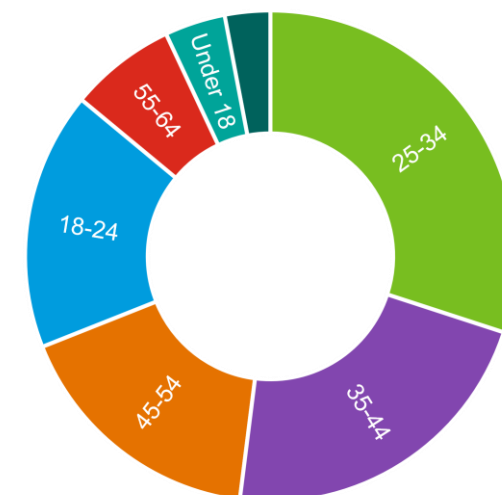
VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE BY GENDER



Victims of domestic abuse in Haringey by Ethnicity



Age of victims of Domestic Abuse, 2018/19



Source of data: MOPAC (2)

SETTING THE SCENE: THE HARINGEY PICTURE

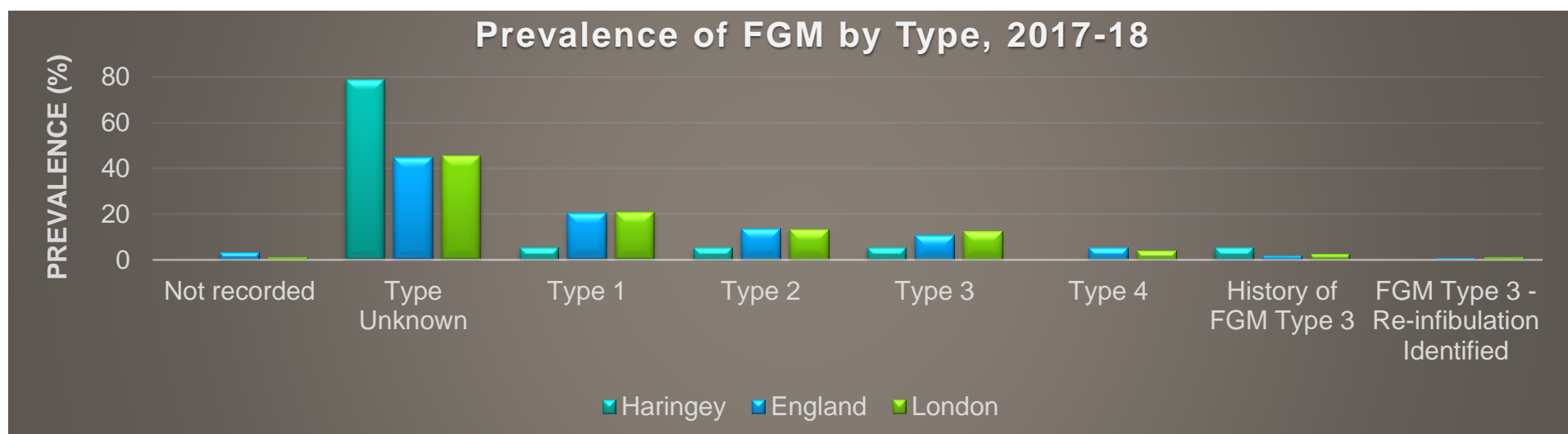
Female Genital Mutilation

FGM has been illegal in the UK since 1985. Criminal and civil legislation are contained in the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003. FGM is categorised into four main types:

- Type 1: partial or total removal of the clitoris or clitoral hood
- Type 2: partial or total removal of the clitoris and the labia minor
- Type 3: narrowing of the vaginal opening by creating a covering seal, formed by cutting and sewing over the outer labia
- Type 4: all other harmful procedures to the female genitalia for non-medical purposes, for example pricking, piercing, incising, scraping, stretching or cauterising the genital area

In 2017-18, Haringey had a high proportion of records (79%) where the FGM type is unknown, accounting for 75 cases. In Haringey, where the type of FGM is recorded, there were:

- 5 cases reported as Type 1
- 5 cases reported as Type 2
- 5 cases reported as Type 3 and 5 cases with a history of FGM Type 3.



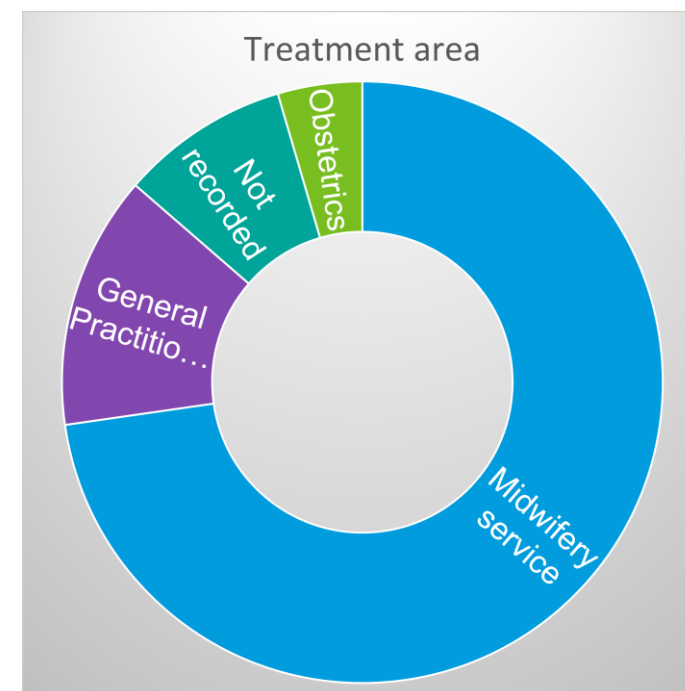
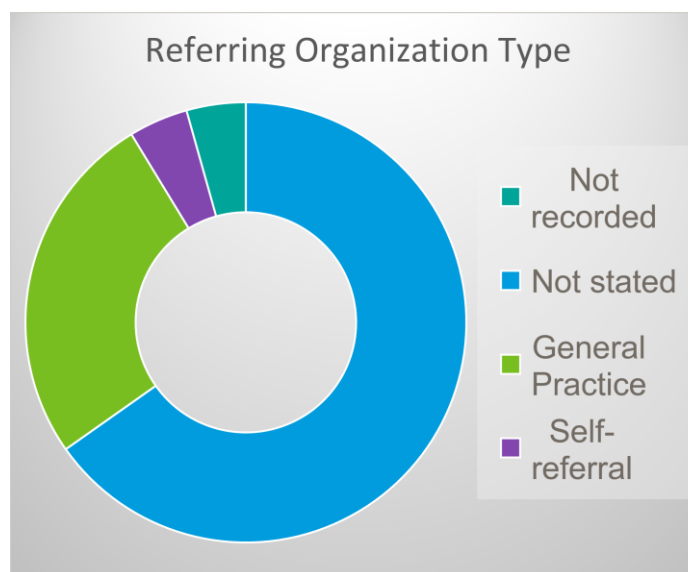
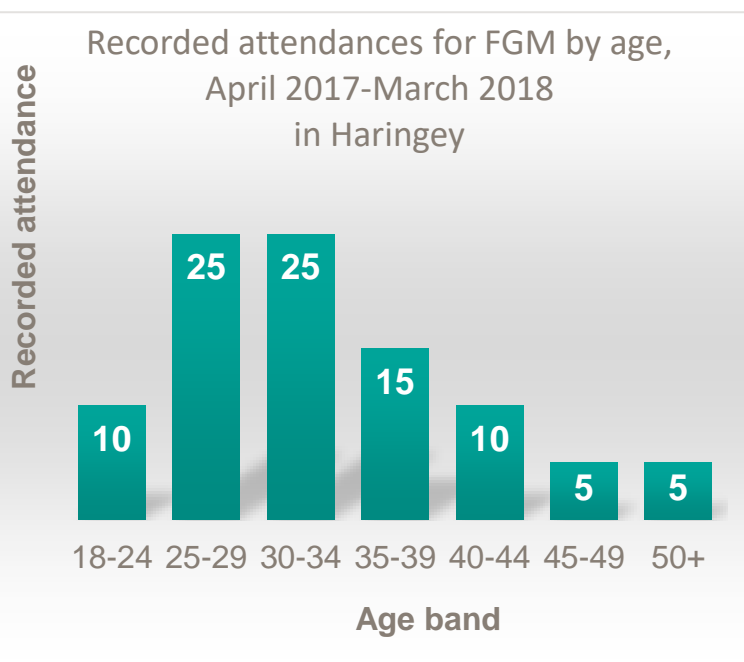
Source: NHS Digital, FGM dataset, 2017-18 (3)

SETTING THE SCENE: THE HARINGEY PICTURE

Female Genital Mutilation: Haringey Attendances, Referrals and Treatment Profile

A number of routes exist that women or girls with FGM can take to care contact when FGM is initially recorded. Over the period April 2017 to March 2018, 95 new attendances were reported in Haringey for FGM. The majority of these were in the age categories 25-29 (25 attendances) and 30-34 (25 attendances).

In total, 30 FGM cases were referred by a general practice between April 2017 and March 2018 in Haringey. The majority of patients (80 in total) were treated by the midwifery service, followed by general practitioner (15 in total) in 2017/18. A total of 5 women were treated by obstetricians which suggests that the women's conditions were identified due to pregnancy.



Source: NHS Digital, FGM dataset, 2017-18 (3)

FUTURE NEED

Planning for Future Need

Future VAWG services in Haringey are being planned in accordance with developments relating to national policy and legislation and where opportunities have been identified to improve the services to meet wider needs. Haringey's VAWG Annual Review 2018-19 recognised some of the gaps and challenges which exist in the provision of support for all victims and survivors, including children and young people. The review identified that future pathways should be planned and developed so that all services are trauma informed. The focus should be on improving services across all needs, including universal, targeted, high needs or multiple disadvantage.

To improve the response to FGM and other Harmful Practices, Haringey Council and key health partners have established a co-ordinated approach with neighbouring boroughs to strategically develop a holistic approach to these issues.

Brexit

Further analysis is required to better understand the implications which Brexit will have on the delivery of VAWG services in Haringey. The evidence base, together with the Government's own analysis and guidance suggests that the negative impacts of Brexit are likely to have the biggest implications for women, and especially vulnerable women.

Covid-19 Pandemic (2020)

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has been detrimental to victims of VAWG, especially those who experience domestic abuse and coercive and controlling behaviours. Whilst services have still operated remotely, being in lockdown with perpetrators has meant limited or no access to any services. This has been a particular issue amongst those victims who have limited access to technology, victims who don't speak English, Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups, women with no recourse to public funds and those facing intersectional barriers. The domestic abuse refuges nationally have been fully occupied and finding a safe place to stay has been a concern for some victims. Staff within the VAWG service at LB Haringey have worked alongside providers and local communities to scope out plans to tackle these issues both now and in response to any expected surge in cases.

WHAT WORKS?

The following is a summary of the evidence available on what works in reducing the prevalence of violence against women and girls and in supporting the victims based on key national frameworks and guidance.

1. Domestic Violence and Abuse: how health services, social care and the organisations they work with can respond effectively (National Institute for Clinical Excellence, 2016). This guidance provides step by step recommendations for health and social care services on how to identify, prevent and reduce domestic violence and abuse(4). The guidelines emphasise the importance of service mapping and strategic partnership working to identify domestic violence as early as possible and can be accessed through the following link: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs116>
2. VAWG Commissioning Toolkit(5): the toolkit provides practical information on the commissioning of VAWG services. The toolkit is structured in a way which reflects the commissioning cycle.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/576238/VAWG_Commissioning_Toolkit.pdf
3. Department of Health (2017) 'Care and Support Statutory Guidance'(6)available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance#safeguarding-1>
4. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has published a VAWG Strategy for 2017-20 which provides a framework outlining the approach taken to these crimes(7). The CPS recognises VAWG as a form of discrimination against women and a fundamental issue of human rights arising from gender inequality. The framework is in line with the CPS's Public Sector Equality Duty and draws upon the UK's ratification of relevant United Nations conventions.
https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal_guidance/VAWG-Strategy-2017-2020-R01.pdf
5. MOPAC VAWG Strategy(8): <https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/mayors-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy-2018-2021>

WHAT WORKS?

Tackling the wider issues around VAWG which include FGM, forced marriage, honour based violence, girls who are abused and exploited within a gang culture, women who want to exit prostitution safely, sexual violence and modern slavery requires a strategic and multi-agency approach to be adopted. In LB Haringey, this approach is co-ordinated by the VAWG team in Public Health who work alongside key partners in supporting victims of domestic abuse and the other issues highlighted above.

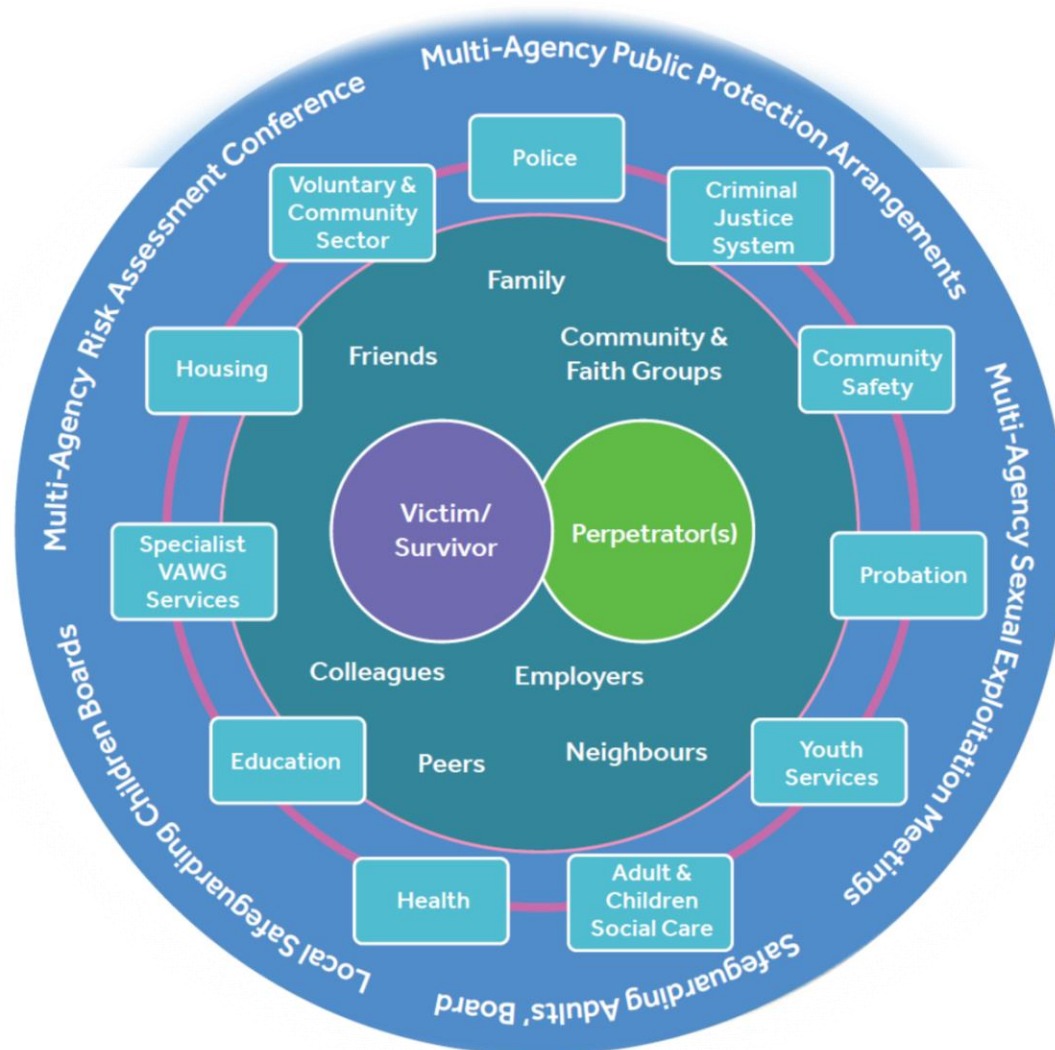
Targeting those communities who are at an increased risk of experiencing a multitude of issues associated with VAWG is key to improving health and social care outcomes. In Haringey, the importance of a co-ordinated approach in tackling, addressing and supporting the victims of VAWG has been demonstrated. Across Haringey, greater focus is being placed on the LGBTQ+ community, the BAME population, those with disabilities and men and boys who experience domestic abuse. The VAWG team work closely with commissioned providers in Haringey to support victims and perpetrators. Key providers include: Nia, Solace, Hearthstone, Imece, Wise Thoughts, LAWA and LAWRS. The VAWG team works closely with the Metropolitan Police and the Department for Work and Pensions. The VAWG team in Haringey have forged key partnerships with voluntary and community sector organisations including the Bridge Renewal Trust and the health sector including local hospitals, GPs, pharmacists in order to support victims and perpetrators.

Through the expansion of these partnerships and engagement with private sector organisations, the VAWG service in Haringey is continuously building its capacity and resource. The VAWG team actively engage with Pan London services which are funded by MOPAC. These services include the Ascent Partnership and joint commissioned services, such as the Wiser service, which was developed in partnership with other local authorities.

Through its multi agency approach and the alignment of key resources, the Haringey VAWG service strives to meet the needs of victims and perpetrators, focusing on reducing the incidence of this crime, which affects one in three women nationally.

WHAT WORKS?

A **coordinated community response**, where agencies and the community work together, is an effective way to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, as illustrated in the model below.



The model is used to challenge the beliefs that people hold which lead to, or which condone or collude with abuse. The model consists of three layers:

Inner layer: Family, friends and neighbours provide the closest 'circle' of support to victims and survivors of VAWG and for holding perpetrators to account.

Middle layer (teal and pink circle): Agencies are involved in a variety of capacities to support victims and survivors. Opportunities to share information between partners should exist to ensure that the support for victims and survivors is holistic.

Outer layer (blue): Identifies some of the key ways in which the statutory and voluntary sector work in collaboration to manage victim/survivors at risk holding perpetrators to account.

THE VOICE: WHAT DO LOCAL PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THE ISSUE

The Public Attitude Survey (PAS) is conducted on an annual basis and provides an indication of Londoners attitudes and experiences towards policing. The survey highlights how well the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) responds to VAWG.

For the most recent survey, which interviewed 12,800 Londoners, the findings were as follows:

1. Overall, 70% of Londoners agreed that the MPS effectively tackle VAWG.
2. Levels of agreement varied by London borough. **However, respondents from Haringey were least likely to agree**
3. Relatively few respondents prioritise sex related crime (1.5%) or domestic violence (0.9%) amongst their **Top 3 priorities for policing in London as a whole**
4. 77% of Londoners feel that their local area is a **safe place for women and girls to grow up**
5. LGB residents, younger age groups, Black residents, and people who self report a mental health disability may have less positive perceptions of the police which may affect the likelihood of reporting to the police.

Source: Most recent PAS survey data R12 to Q3 18-19, MOPAC London Surveys, FY 2018/19

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to develop partnership working arrangements between providers to ensure that co-ordinated interventions around VAWG are in place across health, police, education housing, social care and voluntary and community groups.
- Develop an enhanced understanding of the needs of Haringey's communities through a needs analysis. The overall aim of the needs analysis is to inform future commissioning around VAWG services, recognising the opportunities available to deliver services tailored towards the needs of individual communities.
- Work with stakeholders, the community and survivors to develop an improved understanding of the profile of victims and survivors of VAWG.
- Undertake further analysis of the evidence base to better understand the predicted implications of Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic on VAWG services and survivors in Haringey to inform service delivery with more focused analysis on the BAME population based on findings from the Imkaan position paper(9).
- Further work between the VAWG team and community groups to increase and improve the awareness of the negative impact of VAWG on the local population, developing the referral pathway to best support victims experiencing domestic abuse. It is expected that through these approaches, prevention and early reporting across local communities will be encouraged as part of Haringey's Coordinated Community Response (CCR).

REFERENCES

References to national policy documents, frameworks and toolkits (refer to the corresponding reference numbers above)

1. ONS, domestic abuse data:
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/domesticabuseprevalenceandvictimcharacteristicsappendixtables>
2. MOPAC data: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-statistics/domestic-and-sexual-violence-dashboard>
3. NHS Digital FGM dataset: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/female-genital-mutilation-datasets>
4. NICE Webpage: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs116>
5. VAWG Commissioning toolkit:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/576238/VAWG_Commissioning_Toolkit.pdf
6. Department for Health (2017): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance#safeguarding-1>
7. Crown Prosecution Service: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/violence-against-women-and-girls>
8. MOPAC VAWG Strategy: <https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/mayors-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy-2018-2021>
9. Imkaan: <https://www.imkaan.org.uk/covid19-position-paper>

About Haringey's JSNA

[Haringey.gov.uk](https://www.haringey.gov.uk) brings together information held across the organisations into one accessible place. It provides access to evidence, intelligence and data on the current and anticipated needs of Haringey's population and is designed to be used by a broad range of audiences including practitioners, researchers, commissioners, policy makers, Councillors, students and the general public.

This factsheet was produced by Ms Manju Likhman (VAWG Strategic Lead) Ms Catherine Clarke (VAWG Coordinator), Rick Geer (Knowledge Management Specialist) and approved for publication by the VAWG Strategic Board in September 2020.

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